

Swallowing Stones Study Guide—pages 6-28

Michael (pages 7-15):

1. What test is Michael excited about taking? Why do you think he is excited about this?
2. Who is Darcy?
3. Who is Amy Ruggerio? How does Michael feel now about their encounter together?
4. Who is Joe Sadowski? Why does Michael go to his house early in the morning?
5. What did Michael and Joe hear on the radio? Why does this bother them?
6. What does Joe tell Michael to do with the gun? Why?
7. What is the “pact” that Joe wants Michael to make? Why?
8. How is Michael affected by what he may have done? How is he feeling? What is he thinking?
9. Why didn't Michael pass his driver's test?
10. What does Michael do with the gun? Why?

Jenna (pages 19-28):

1. Who is the local police chief?
2. Jenna feels like she is “standing outside of herself.” Explain what this means?
3. Why do you think that Jenna is “going about her normal routine as if nothing had changed” (21)? (Hint—think about the grieving process.)
4. What type of relationship does Jenna have with her mother? How do you know?
5. What does Jenna think happened to her father?
6. How is Chief Zelenski planning to trace the path of the bullet?
7. Jenna’s mother is composed and calm when she talks to chief Zelenski. Why do you think this infuriated Jenna?
8. When Jenna opens her front door, who does she encounter?